

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A magnetic head, comprising:
2 a magnetic pole;
3 a media heating device;
4 a first electrical insulation layer being disposed below said media heating device;
5 a second electrical insulation layer being disposed above said media heating
6 device;
7 a sacrificial layer being disposed above said second electrical insulation layer.

- 1 2. A magnetic head as described in claim 1 wherein said media heating device is
2 disposed adjacent to said magnetic pole, and said sacrificial layer is disposed between
3 said media heating device and said magnetic pole.

- 1 3. A magnetic head as described in claim 2 wherein said sacrificial layer is
2 comprised of a material that is a seed layer for said magnetic pole.

- 1 4. A magnetic head as described in claim 3 wherein said seed layer is comprised of
2 NiFe.

1 5. A magnetic head as described in claim 2 wherein said magnetic pole includes a
2 magnetic pole pedestal, and wherein said sacrificial layer is disposed between said media
3 heating device and said magnetic pole pedestal.

1 6. A magnetic head as described in claim 1 wherein portions of said sacrificial layer
2 are exposed at an air bearing surface of the magnetic head.

1 7. A magnetic head as described in claim 1 wherein said sacrificial layer is less than
2 approximately 2,000 Å thick.

1 8. A hard disk drive including a magnetic head, comprising:
2 a magnetic pole;
3 a media heating device;
4 a first electrical insulation layer being disposed below said media heating device;
5 a second electrical insulation layer being disposed above said media heating
6 device;
7 a sacrificial layer being disposed above said second electrical insulation layer.

1 9. A hard disk drive as described in claim 8 wherein said media heating device is
2 disposed adjacent to said magnetic pole, and said sacrificial layer is disposed between
3 said media heating device and said magnetic pole.

1 10. A hard disk drive as described in claim 9 wherein said sacrificial layer is
2 comprised of a material that is a seed layer for said magnetic pole.

1 11. A hard disk drive as described in claim 10 wherein said seed layer is comprised of
2 NiFe.

1 12. A hard disk drive as described in claim 9 wherein said magnetic pole includes a
2 magnetic pole pedestal, and wherein said sacrificial layer is disposed below said media
3 heating device and said magnetic pole pedestal.

1 13. A hard disk drive as described in claim 8 wherein portions of said sacrificial layer
2 are exposed at an air bearing surface of the magnetic head.

1 14. A hard disk drive as described in claim 8 wherein said sacrificial layer is less than
2 2,000 Å thick.

1 15. A method for fabricating a magnetic head, comprising:
2 fabricating a first magnetic pole of said magnetic head;
3 depositing a first electrical insulation layer upon said first magnetic pole;
4 fabricating a media heating device upon said first electrical insulation layer;
5 depositing a second electrical insulation layer upon said media heating device;
6 depositing a sacrificial layer upon said second electrical insulation layer;

7 fabricating a further component of said magnetic head wherein said fabrication of
8 said further component includes a step that results in removing portions of said sacrificial
9 layer that are disposed above said media heating device.

1 16. A method for fabricating a magnetic head as described in claim 15 wherein said
2 sacrificial layer is composed of a material that serves as a seed layer for the electroplating
3 of another component of the magnetic head.

1 17. A method for fabricating a magnetic head as described in claim 15, wherein said
2 media heating device includes an electrically resistive heating element.

1 18. A method for fabricating a magnetic head as described in claim 15, wherein said
2 step of depositing a sacrificial layer includes the step of depositing the sacrificial layer
3 material full film across a surface of a wafer wherein said magnetic head is fabricated.

1 19. A method for fabricating a magnetic head as described in claim 16, wherein said
2 sacrificial layer is comprised of nickel iron.

1 20. A method for fabricating a magnetic head as described in claim 15, wherein said
2 further component is an induction coil portion of said magnetic head.

1 21. A method for fabricating a magnetic head as described in claim 16, wherein said
2 another component of the magnetic head is a magnetic pole.

1 22. A method for fabricating a magnetic head as described in claim 15, wherein said
2 further component is an induction coil portion of the magnetic head, and a magnetic pole
3 is fabricated upon said sacrificial layer following said step that results in removing
4 portions of said sacrificial layer.